



Celebrating Henry David Thoreau

2017 marks the bicentennial of Henry David Thoreau's birth

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation is presenting a series of programming at Walden Pond State Reservation and DCR facilities statewide in honor of writer and philosopher Henry David Thoreau's 200th birthday. Henry was born on July 12, 1817 and lived at Walden Pond from July 4, 1845 to September 6, 1847 in a small house he built with his own hands where he observed nature, recorded his thoughts in journals, and reflected on his place in the world and made Walden Pond State Reservation an inspiration for the American conservation movement.

Please find below a listing of special statewide guided programs and events celebrating Henry David Thoreau's birth. You can learn and attend programs about Henry David Thoreau all year long by visiting Walden Pond State Reservation. For a complete listing of events please visit www.mass.gov/dcr.

For a complete listing of bicentennial events in Concord and Lincoln please visit: <http://thoreaubicentennial.org/>

Things to know before you go:

- Most programs are free.
 - Some parks charge a parking fee.
 - Dress for the weather.
 - All children must be accompanied by an adult.
 - Carry drinking water and a snack.
 - Rain may cancel; please call ahead to confirm.
 - Reasonable accommodations are available; call in advance to inquire.
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Walden Pond State Reservation,

Program Information: *All Programs are free and open to the public. There is an \$8.00 parking fee for Massachusetts license plates, \$10.00 for non-MA license plates. An adult must accompany children. To protect the resource Walden Pond State Reservation has a visitor capacity. Visitors are advised to call ahead (978) 369-3254, or check Twitter at @waldenpondstate before planning a trip or attending a program.*

Monday, July 10, 2017

Henry David Thoreau, Who can he be?

Meet the Author, Storywalk® & Book Signing

Meet for the walk at 9:30a.m. at the Walden Pond Visitor Center

Join children's author and Thoreau Society Ambassador, **Donna Marie**

Przybojewski, at a special Henry David Thoreau Bicentennial

event. Przybojewski will introduce her brand new *StoryWalk®* and lead visitors on a 1-mile loop from Thoreau's replica to the House Site. Walking shoes, sun protection, insect repellent, and water are suggested. Greet the author afterwards at the 12:30p.m book signing in the air-conditioned lobby of the Walden Pond Visitor Center. The Storywalk® will be available through Sunday, July 16.

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Henry's Watermelon Party

12:00pm-2:00pm, at the Thoreau House Replica near the main parking lot

Henry David Thoreau was known to have grown the sweetest, juiciest melons in Concord. Every year, he shared his harvest with friends and family. As we continue this tradition, enjoy a slice of melon with historian Richard Smith who will portray Thoreau at the Thoreau house replica.

Recital of Songs from the Thoreau Family Flute Book

2:15pm to 3:15pm in the Walden Pond Visitor Center

The flute duets from the Thoreau Family Flute Book were discovered in Orchard House in Concord MA in 1985. The flute books were passed down by the father to his son Henry David Thoreau, and seem to have been used by Henry to press his leaf collection. Please join us in Walden's new earth friendly Visitor Center for selections of songs that the Thoreau family played, performed for Henry's birthday by flutists Judy Braude and Tricia Craig.

Public Reading of Selections from Thoreaus' Book, Walden

3:30pm to 5:00pm on the grass overlooking the pond

Enjoy a view of Walden Pond as selections from Henry David Thoreau's timeless classic, *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* are read aloud. Words written in the nineteenth century that many find relevant today, will be heard in the landscape that inspired Thoreau.

Walden Pond Visitor Center

Open 10:00am to 5:00pm

Visit the new, earth-friendly visitor center at Walden Pond. Hear about the future exhibits featuring the legacy of Henry David Thoreau and get a tour of the energy efficient building from a park interpreter. The building is expected to receive Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) Gold certification, a green building rating program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices. View a trailer for the upcoming "Walden" film being produced by Ken Burns Productions and peruse Henry David Thoreau's daily journal entry. All ages are welcome! Pop in anytime during the 7-hour window.

Henry's Timeline in American Flags

Get a snapshot of the changing times that Henry David Thoreau lived in. View historically accurate American flags on display with the number of stars, representing the states in the union at milestones of Thoreau's life. 1817 when Thoreau was born, 1845 when Thoreau moved to Walden pond, and 1862 when Thoreau died. Enjoy an ongoing small scale flag making activity for children and families, and learning about American history.

Co-sponsored by the *Friends of Walden Pond State Reservation*.
An activity of the **Walden Woods Project** <http://www.walden.org>,

The following programs are being presented as part of the "Thoreau Bicentennial Statewide Read," co-sponsored by The Walden Woods Project, University of Massachusetts Lowell Honors College, Massachusetts Center for the Book, and Freedom's Way National Heritage Area.

Lawrence Heritage State Park, Lawrence

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Thoreau on the Merrimack, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

A walk through a wooded park along the Merrimack River, looking much as it did when he traveled up the river with his brother, as he chronicled in "A Week on the

Concord and Merrimack". Meet at the Bashara Boathouse @ Lawrence Riverfront State Park, end of Eaton St., South Lawrence. For more information please call (978) 794-1655.

Wachusett Mountain State Reservation, Princeton
Saturday, July 15, 2017

In the Footsteps of a Giant, 11:00am

Thoreau walked from his hometown of Concord Massachusetts and climbed Wachusett Mountain in 1842. Come join us as we relive part of his historic hike. This event will include an interpretive program at the summit and then an optional hike to explore part of the route Thoreau took on his famous walk to Wachusett. Meet the Park Interpreter at the Wachusett Mountain Summit next to the fire tower at 11:00am to enjoy readings from the great author and naturalist Henry David Thoreau and to discover information about his life and writings. For those who wish to take part, the second portion of the program will begin immediately following the summit program. It will be an optional hike from the summit along part of the path that Henry David Thoreau followed in 1842. The hike will begin at the summit at 11:30am and will take approximately 1½ hours, covering about one mile, with stops for readings along the way. The Park Interpreter will also share insights into the natural history of Wachusett Mountain. The hike is fairly strenuous, with some steep and rocky stretches, so be prepared. You may drive up the Summit Parkway to attend the program, but there is limited parking in the summit lot, so please plan accordingly. Please note that the program is free, but there is a \$5 fee to drive to the summit for MA vehicles or \$6 for out-of-state vehicles. For more information please call 978 464-2987.

Nickerson State Park, Brewster
Sunday, July 16, 2017

To Know Each Other When They Were Strangers, 10am-12pm

Join us on an easy walk along the Nickerson State Park bike trail and learn about Henry David Thoreau's impressions of Cape Cod and her people from our very own Park Interpreter who is a 12th generation native Cape Codder. Participant will be walking on an NSP paved bike trail that is relatively level grade with no big hills for about 1.5 miles. Meet at Area 4 overflow parking lot along Deer Park Road 1 1/4 miles in from entrance or ¼ mile past Park Store on left. Nickerson State Park is located at 3488 Main Street (Route 6A), Brewster, MA. For more information call (508) 896-3491. There is a parking fee; \$8/day for MA vehicles,

\$15/day for non-MA vehicles. Pack your lunch, bathing suits, and hiking boots and spend your afternoon at Nickerson after the program.

Mount Greylock State Reservation, North Adams
Saturday, July 22, 2017

Thoreau on the Bellows Pipe, 10am

Hike the historic 1844 route of Henry David Thoreau's walk up Mount Greylock. Join DCR park staff and historian Lauren Stevens to view and discuss actual sites in his account in "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers." Choice of 6 or 10 mile round-trip hike, moderate to strenuous difficulty. Meet at the intersection of Notch and Reservoir Roads, North Adams, MA. Bring a snack, lunch, water, appropriate clothing for the weather, and sturdy footwear. Call 413-499-4262 for more information.